# Family and Consumer Support and Advocacy Group

Aka: Loved Ones

Report of progress- February 7, 2017





Strength Hope Compossion

#### Mission Statement

Our mission is to support the segments of the Erie County Opiate Epidemic Task Force by improving the delivery of services for those affected, advocating for our loved ones while fortifying the community response of attaining our common goal of eliminating addiction, illness and death from opiate use.

#### We envision a joint effort to:

- show respect for all people
- minimize health, legal and social harms associated with substance use
- provide comfort and compassion to those affected by addition
- advocate for available, affordable, comprehensive therapeutic services for the addicted
- educate the public
- focus on prevention
- reduce harm among families and individuals
- pursue legal enactments to further our goal.
- eradicate this public health crisis from our community and our homes

#### Goals

Save Lives.

Eliminate addiction, illness and death from opiate use.

Advocate for our loved ones.

# Subgroups

- Event Resource and Planning
- Lobbying
- Community education
- Grief Support/ Parenting Support

# Subgroup Purposes

Grief Support Group

To offer comfort and support to those suffering from the disease of addiction

Community Education

To develop Public Awareness of the Epidemic by offering knowledge from personal experience

# Event Planning and Resource Development

- Create or attend events to further our mission of comfort and support. To break the stigma of addiction.
- Speaker Group of those with personal experience.

#### Lobbying Efforts

- Strengthen Laws to Support Consequences
- Judiciary to be aware of our community concern and interest
- Strengthen Legislative processes to represent our Community Interests

#### Educate the Public

- November- Legislative Meeting to continue life saving-efforts.
- December Tree of Remembrance and Hope.
- January Narcan Training, Genesis Center
- February 10 Opiates Symposium
- March 6 Black Balloon Day Erie County Hall

## Putting a Face on Addiction

- News
- Social Media
- Personal Stories
- Attending Events
- Making Public Statements
- Making Private Statements
- Newspaper Editorials
- Lending out our Personal Stories Library

#### Continue to:

- Advocate for Services for Loved Ones
- Lobby our Cause
- Pursue Legal Enactments
- Encourage Cooperation between all Segments of the Task Force
- Support Recommendations to be developed from all Task Force Segments to the local area leaders for improved Service Delivery

#### Our Future Goals

- Family Support Group, Hamburg -March
- Memorial Walk, Cazenovia Park- May 20
- Cuddle Babies Cohort April
- Continue lobbying efforts in the Courts/ Legislature
- Advocating for our loved ones- no one should be turned away
- Humane Treatment for Addiction/ Mental Health

#### We are Grateful

- To Have Support from:
  - The Community
  - Informed Political Leaders
  - Committed Medical Professionals
  - Dedicated Law Enforcement Officers
  - Considerate Mental Health Leaders
  - Caring Treatment Providers
  - Supportive Loved Ones
  - Compassionate Neighbors
  - Loving Spiritual Guidance Providers

### We Are Not Alone

Please Join Us for Black Balloon Day Monday, March 6 at 6pm at Erie County Hall to Remember Those We Lost from this Horrible Opioid Epidemic



We are a group of passionate, professional, trained individuals who are willing to support your objectives.

How can we assist you?

• Questions?

Concerns

Comments

Thank You